

Narrative medicine

A new course will provide insights on health in aboriginal communities.

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Banking on a windfall

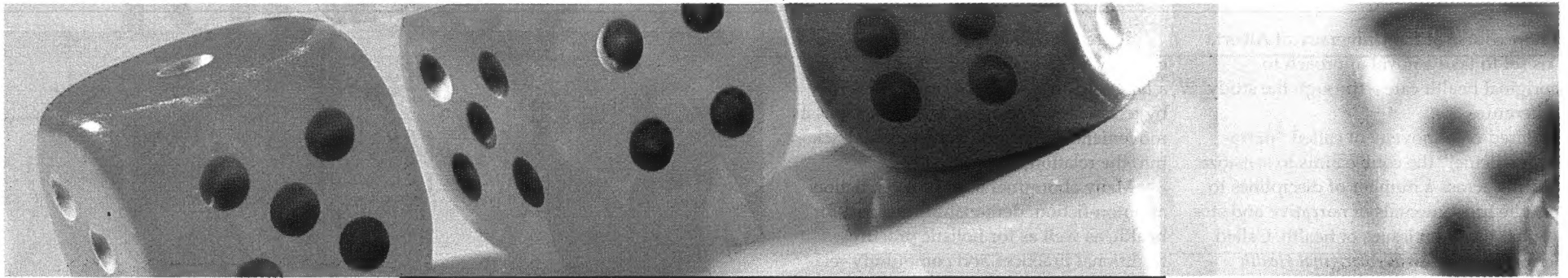
Some Canadian researchers face uncertain times, with positive talk but little action on funding from Genome Canada.

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King of the mountain

Transplant recipient Dave Smith reaches the summit, in memory of those who couldn't.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

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Robot soccer players gain stature

Segway 'players' will team up with humans

By Richard Cairney

The University of Alberta is well known for its competitive sports teams but one of its most unusual squads, the Department of Computing Science's robot soccer team, is growing in physical and intellectual ways.

Dr. Michael Bowling, a recent addition to the department's teaching and research staff, is launching an entirely new category of robotic soccer on campus – one in which humans are active participants.

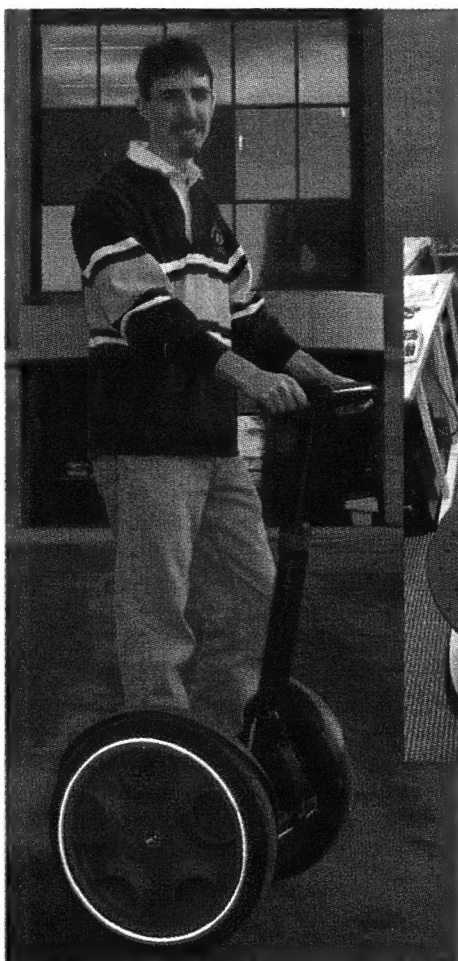
In the past few years, U of A robot soccer teams have played competitively in the small-robot category. Their 'players', weighing in at a few pounds, resemble large tin cans. Cameras mounted above the field – about twice the size of a ping-pong table – monitor the position of the robots, the ball, the net and opponents. Computers assess field position, refer to playbook strategies and fire off wireless instructions to the drones.

The true goal of the international robot soccer community is more diabolical than simply scoring points against other teams of robots: the robot soccer initiative aims to field a team of robots that will defeat humans in a game of soccer, by the year 2050.

While Bowling's research may contribute to that end, it is much less sinister and more complicated. His large-category robots will work co-operatively with humans against other two-player teams made up of humans and robots. Each team is made up of one human, riding a two-wheeled Segway human transporter, and a robot teammate – an independent computer-operated version of the Segway. The biggest difference between the small robots and Bowling's large-scale robots is the degree of intelligence – Bowling aims to design robotic players capable of learning which strategies work with different teammates and opponents and able to develop new strategies when their established plays aren't good enough to win a game.

Achieving that goal demands that he asks some big questions.

"How do we get the robots to adapt to humans?" he wonders. "Because you can imagine a human adapting to a robot but what if we had a Segway figuring 'Oh, this human is being way too aggressive. I



Dr. Michael Bowling, atop his Segway, and inset, with the smaller robotic version, is using the new personal transport systems to create 'smart' robot soccer players.

need to play more defensively.'? And then, what if it played with someone else who was playing more of a defensive game? How would it decide to play more aggressively?

"Robots learning to play games? Now that's what really gets me excited."

In fact, it was the subject of his PhD thesis. Bowling turns to his computer to show a video of two small-scale soccer robots. The goal of one robot is to position itself in the centre of a circle – the other robot's job is to prevent that from happening. Through a process of trial and error, one robot learns which moves – a fake to the right then sprint to the left, for example, works best. The other learns through the same process which defensive moves are most successful.

The video shows one robot first successfully manoeuvring its way to the centre of the circle then being outsmarted by its opponent, which has learned to adapt to the first robot's tactics; there then follows a change of strategies on the first robot's part. The same teaching method can be employed in robot soccer.

"Somewhere in the system you need to evaluate certain situations and it is in that evaluation that you learn," said Bowling. "The robot can figure 'the last 10 times I've been in this situation I've scored seven goals,' so that situation is assigned a value of 70 per cent. The system

will make a 'decision' to go to the most desirable situation."

Of course, the value of situations change over time, as adversaries 'learn' from their mistakes. Bowling takes obvious delight in this.

"Most machine learning systems don't expect the world to change around them, but in games that is wrong, because the other agent is probably learning as well."

That's assumed in Segway soccer. Rules of the game require the robots and humans to work together – teammates must pass the ball to one another at least once before a goal is scored. At the Carnegie Mellon University Robot Institute, where he earned his PhD last year, Bowling's colleagues have a leg up on the U of A, with Segway soccerbots capable of receiving and passing a soccer ball to a human player on board a Segway. Last month, Bowling took possession of his own Segway and is awaiting delivery of a robot-platform version, which is produced by the manufacturer for just such purposes.

The unifying theme of Bowling's work is robot soccer. But the programming

detail that enables the soccerbots to see where they are going, know where they are, make decisions on what to do in different situations and to learn from their mistakes – has applications in any field you can imagine.

In terms of mapping, for example, robots have been developed to "know" where they are by using lasers. A museum in Germany experimented with a robotic docent, which would guide visitors through the exhibits, using lasers to determine where it was, and which exhibits it was to expound upon. Problems emerged when crowds of curious visitors encircled the robot – it didn't recognize the circular room it thought it was in.

But there are problems with mapping outdoors, too, says Bowling. "A robot using lasers will only be able to say 'yeah, obstacles are really far away,'," he said.

So he intends to develop robots that can see landmarks to determine where they are. In using vision to do mapping, Bowling would like his robots to head out into the quad and get a feel for the environment, visually.

"I want it to be able to say 'that building across quad looks like an image I've seen before, and when I've seen that image before, this is where I was.' And when it familiarizes itself with the playing field it should be able to say 'I've driven around the field a lot and I've seen all there is to see.'"

That kind of wayfinding would help eliminate problems computerized vision systems have, particularly in the outdoors, where changes in lighting conditions change a computer's understanding of where it is. Players in the small-robot soccer category have been forced to come to terms with the issue when new rules prohibited the use of lighting systems teams used to provide a consistent colour-scape.

The challenge in vision is letting the robotic players know that the ball hasn't disappeared just because the sun has gone behind a cloud. "Humans are always doing relative comparisons. We don't notice the fact that fluorescent lights cast pink shadows on things," Bowling said. "We don't say 'that orange ball looks too pink – it can't be the one I'm looking for.'" ■

New course, proposed diploma in aboriginal health

Narrative medicine will foster greater understanding of cultural differences

By Geoff McMaster

A new course at the University of Alberta is set to take a novel approach to aboriginal health care – through the study of literature.

Based on a movement called “narrative medicine,” the course aims to sensitize students across a number of disciplines to both the fundamentals of narrative and stories that touch on issues of health. Called *Stories of Life: Voice in Aboriginal Health Research*, it will be offered this month by the U of A’s Centre for Health Promotion Studies (CHPS) and taught by a professor in the English Department.

“The literature gives you a cross-cultural perspective and understanding and asks you to attend to different kinds of social relations in the way that first encounters, or meeting people for the first time, doesn’t allow for,” said English professor Dr. Cheryl Suzack. “So by reading the literature one can get a sense of immersion and a kind of consciousness-raising opportunity while also thinking through some really complex problems.”

Suzack said the narrative medicine movement, which is gathering steam particularly in the U.S., takes issue with the ways in which social relations around health, such as the primary doctor-patient relationship, have been dehumanized by technology and technological language.

There is this constant need to diagnose or qualify or situate health problems into a language that has been provided for us by technology, and narrative medicine is a movement which brings the human back into the relationship, she said.

Many aboriginal literary texts, fiction and non-fiction, demonstrate concern for health, as well as for holistic practices, traditional practices and community relations, said Suzack. Authors of these texts offer their own views of what constitutes a healthy, vibrant community, and therefore provide a useful guide for health providers to follow. Some of the texts on the reading list include Michael Dorris’ *The Broken Cord*, Basil Johnston’s *Indian School Days*, and Linda Hogan’s *Solar Storms*.

Fay Fletcher, co-ordinator of diversity and health promotion for the CHPS, says the course will also be offered through distance learning to reach those students now working as health professionals in aboriginal communities.

“The advantage is it gives people who otherwise don’t have a knowledge of the history and context of people’s lives an opportunity to get the facts but also experience some of the emotion that comes with reading literary texts,” said Fletcher, who will teach the distance learning version of the course. “Then you’re creating some empathy with or deeper understanding of life circumstances.”

The course is a first step towards a proposed post-graduate diploma in aboriginal health CHPS hopes will be launched in the fall of 2006. It is now being developed



Music is an important source of wellness in aboriginal communities. A new U of A course will help paint a clearer picture of what health and wellness mean in aboriginal cultures.

in partnership with Aboriginal Capacity and Development Research Environments (ACADRE), and in consultation with elders and other members of local aboriginal communities. Operating within the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, ACADRE connects networks across Canada with a view to fostering aboriginal health research.

The proposed diploma will consist of 24 credits and will be offered through three community colleges: Blue Quills First Nations College, Yellowhead Tribal College and Maskwachees Cultural College. The aim is to allow aboriginal students to “stay in their communities to build health promotion capacity...and identify and resolve some of the health needs in the commu-

nity,” said Fletcher.

“There are health needs in the aboriginal community that are more critical than in the mainstream. For example, type-2 diabetes is higher, as is obesity and some of the chronic illnesses, substance abuse and suicide,” said Fletcher. “By having the program delivered through the community college, we allow the students to stay in the community; we also enable the students to use course work and practicums to give immediate returns to the community.”

Some of the issues the course will explore include traditional health practices and the impact of treaties, policies, colonization and decolonization on aboriginal health, said Fletcher. ■

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Tri-Councils following up on funding review

Agencies visiting campus to review policies

By Jason Darrah

When the University of Alberta received a review by the three major federal granting agencies in 2001 that said the way the university managed research funding could result in accountability problems, senior administration set in motion a strategy to improve or clarify policies, systems and processes for managing research funds.

This task examined campus-wide fund administration systems and sought to increase the capacity to manage the ever-increasing volume of research activity – a 290 per cent jump in research funding since 1996.

During the week of January 24-28, the federal agencies are conducting a routine follow-up visit to evaluate the university’s progress in addressing issues highlighted by the review in 2001 and its ongoing development of processes to improve the management of research funds.

“We mobilized both short-term and long-term processes to address a range of issues relating to the way the institution manages research funding, and we are confident that the work has resulted in a more responsible and accountable system,” said Dr. Gary Kachanoski, Vice-President (Research). “The changes are ongoing, and the tremendous assistance of members of the campus research community at large is greatly appreciated.”

“Funding from the three agencies totalled more than \$82 million to the University of Alberta last year.”

Collectively referred to as the Tri-Council, the agencies are the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Science and Engineering Research Canada (formerly NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). Combined with other federal agencies, the Canadian government contributes about 37 per cent of total research funding to the university, which amounted to more than \$141 million in

2003-04, out of a total of \$377.2 million.

“It is important to recognize that the Tri-Council review in 2001 identified issues that had a potential for fund management problems, and not actual problems,” said Kachanoski. “But the potential was serious enough to warrant wide-scale changes to ensure no major problems ever arise. The management of the continuing growth in annual research funding is an ongoing challenge in an environment where resources are limited.”

Following the 2001 review, the university’s Executive Planning Committee delegated overall responsibility for addressing the concerns identified in the report to Kachanoski, and he noted that all members of EPC have been actively involved in the changes and improvements that have been put in place over the last three years.

Activities to address the Tri-Council issues have been broad-ranging, from changing how administrators enter project data, to clarifying and publishing a university-wide policy on research roles and responsibilities, and the university established a senior-level oversight committee to monitor research fund management issues and to recommend how systems should change.

“We have been very fortunate to have so many people involved in this constructive process from all levels, including researchers, research project administrators and department staff to the central administration,” said Kachanoski. “This work has significantly improved the institution’s accountability issues, and we are now extremely well positioned to launch initiatives that will help researchers deal with the time demands of increasing compliance requirements.”

The financial monitoring visit in late January will consist of two components: a review of specified financial transactions and the systems used to manage these

transactions for the fiscal year 2004-2005, and interviews with selected researchers and administrators. ■

»» quick »» facts

Information Exchange on Tri-Council Funding

The university is hosting an information session on financial management presented by the senior representatives of the Tri-Council agencies:

- Date: Wednesday January 26
- Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Location: Education North, Room 2-115
- Who: open to all faculty and staff

Contacts and Resources

- For more information on the upcoming Tri-Council Financial Review please contact the Research Facilitator in your faculty or call Peter North, senior finance manager for the Research Services Office (Tel: 492-6284, e-mail northp@rso.ualberta.ca).
- For details on policy/process changes visit the website: www.rso.ualberta.ca/TriCouncilGroup.cfm.

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Research fundundrum

Researchers wringing hands of future Genome Canada funding

By Phoebe Dey

Some Canadian researchers have recently sounded the alarm over the premature end of several large-scale projects – a move that could signal the loss of top minds in one of the world's hottest areas of science.

Securing research dollars is often onerous, but scientists in the burgeoning fields of genomics and proteomics are especially concerned that their in-progress work will be wasted if the federal government does not come through with funding to see their projects through.

"It's a bit like playing the lottery, but in this case you're playing with no confirmed prize or winnings in the end," said Dr. David Wishart, director of the Canadian Bioinformatics Help Desk at the University of Alberta, and a professor in the departments of Computing Science, Biological Sciences and Pharmacy.

Genomics aims to catalogue the genetic code of an organism and uses that gene sequence to examine diseases and evolution, while the newer science of proteomics is the understanding of the protein's detailed function, evolutionary relationship and especially the structural changes in mutant proteins that make them unable to perform their function.

Over the past five years, the Canadian government has recognized the importance of these growing fields with the creation of a number of programs funded through such agencies as Genome Canada, created specifically to develop and implement a national strategy in genomics and proteomics in the country; the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (formerly NSERC, now SERC) and the Canada Research Chair (CRC) Program. These sources have been vital to the set up and operation of 79 immense projects in genomics and proteomics started in 2000 – results of which could reap major benefits for Canada and the world.

The first of these programs to come up against the wall is Genome Canada, says Dr. Joel Weiner, associate dean (research) in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry and a biochemistry professor. Genome Canada has completed three rounds of grants competitions since its inception in 2000 and has already invested more than \$365 million across the country, but there is no renewal mechanism in place for any of its previously funded projects initiated in 2000 and 2001. Although there is no guarantee, researchers awarded grants in the earlier rounds can submit proposals for the fourth round of funding.

But, says Weiner, the current risk is that millions of taxpayer dollars already invested to these projects – each is worth between \$20 million and \$40 million in combined funds – will be pointless if the funding does not come and the work cannot be finished.

"It's a complicated situation," said Weiner, who has been lobbying the federal government as a health researcher as well as the acting Canadian president of the Human Proteomic Organization (HUPO). "There are those who say these researchers knew from day one how long the funding

"It's a bit like playing the lottery, but in this case you're playing with no confirmed prize or winnings in the end."

—Dr. David Wishart



Researchers fear failure to renew Genome Canada funding would mean some work and training the agency has supported to date would be wasted.

would last, but the other side of the argument is that a field like proteomics isn't technologically as advanced as genomics. Genomics is clearly defined with a beginning and an end and can often fit within the three-year frame that funding lasts. It takes much more time to get systems in proteomics up and running, so these projects may be left unfinished, which is what worries me."

Weiner says that if the projects are forced to terminate, as many as 2000 highly trained personnel could be lost, many to the United States or Europe. To achieve the best health-care and state-of-the-art clinicians, he says, strong researchers and facilities are needed. "If we lose these people, the delivery of health care will be impacted. It's a domino effect...In Alberta, if we're looking at having an innovative economy which is based on knowledge and power, we have to look at the people first."

Most researchers, as well as the federal government, agree that collaboration among funding agencies is key. With so many different partners, co-ordination may lead to money better spent, argues Weiner. "For example, there are many places with huge CFI grants for equipment but no money to operate them. In Canada, our biotech industry is growing but we still struggle to find good people."

Wishart is worried about losing staff in his own U of A lab, which received \$7.2 million in Genome Canada funding earlier this year, to build a metabolic toolbox. The work is expected to identify diseases and genetic disorders 100 times faster and 1,000 times cheaper than current methodologies. But Wishart fears that without another grant – his runs out in three years – not only will his lab work come to a halt but without confirmed funding by Genome Canada for a core facility for bioinformatics at the U of A, his highly trained staff may have to look elsewhere for work.

Other funding agencies like CFI and SERC are permanently funded by the fed-

eral government, but in this fourth round of Genome Canada grants, people are applying with the possibility of no available money, said Wishart. "There is considerable uncertainty. Some people are hoping that there is \$300 million or \$400 million set aside, some think \$80 million, but it could be zero," he said. "There has always been money from other agencies but in this case there could be a zero-per-cent chance that any dollars are there."

But Genome Canada is optimistic the federal funds will come through and in the meantime they've given every project bridge funding for the next six months, said Marcel Chartrand, vice-president of communications for the agency. "For us it's business as usual. There is no reason not to be optimistic. We've met 100 parliamentarians in the last few months and have argued our case several times...and they seem to be committed to funding this research."

"We would reassure the community that there is no change in our structure and no change in our commitment made to them, but the signs are very good from the government."

The U of A's Dr. Phillip Halloran hopes the agency continues as it has been over the last five years. A recipient of a Genome Canada grant for his 'gene chip' that has the potential to predict and ease the problems of transplant patients as they arise, Halloran sees the resource not only as a scientific boon but as an industrial one as well.

"The money they spend upfront leads pharmaceutical and big venture capitalists to invest in the work we do," said Halloran, director of the Alberta Transplant Institute and a professor in the U of A's Division of Nephrology and Transplantation Immunology.

"Genome Canada is a wonderful idea but in its execution, there are going to be some difficulties. There isn't unlimited money available and some projects will want their funding renewed, but the rules so far have been to end the funding after

"For us it's business as usual. There is no reason not to be optimistic. We've met 100 parliamentarians in the last months and have argued our case several times...and they seem to be committed to funding this research."

—Marcel Chartrand

three years. This has to be done if any new projects are to ever start up."

Although much work has been done in recognizing the work of genomic and proteomic researchers across the country, scientists should also seek a commitment from the private sector, said Halloran. "It's a work in progress and although there is a lot of room to criticize, the people who pioneered Genome Canada should be praised for their ingenuity and forward thinking."

Wishart also acknowledges the work Genome Canada has done over the past few years in raising awareness of genomics and proteomics, which is reflected in the high caliber of researchers applying for the grants. Funding for Canadian researchers in these disciplines has also increased dramatically and helped recruit and retain outstanding people, but the need for continued investment is still crucial, says Wishart.

"You can't hand over a large dollop of money and then just stop. There has to be a wind-down process or consultation with groups or stakeholders on how to sustain it...It would also be nice if the provincial government took on a more active role – not just for capital expenses but for operating as well. Areas of physics and genomics, for example, require large teams and large sums of money are needed to move the field further ahead."

"For years, Canada was lagging behind in this area but Genome Canada has helped launch us to the forefront of research. It would be great to continue that momentum." ■

Transplant recipient sets world climbing record

University staffer summits Mount Sajama for transplant patients

By Geoff McMaster

It was the pictures of those who weren't so lucky, photos tucked safely in his breast pocket, that propelled Dave Smith to the summit. Taking one slow step at a time, pausing to let his lungs suck up what little oxygen was in the air, he suddenly became aware that he was climbing this mountain not just for himself, but for everyone who has received an organ transplant.

"I just didn't have quit in me," said the 41-year-old Smith, parts man for the University of Alberta's vehicle pool, of that last stretch to the top of Mount Sajama in Bolivia. "It's one day in my life. It's hard for me to breathe today, but it's hard for lung recipients to breathe every day."

On Dec. 2 Smith set a record for the highest climb made by an organ recipient, at 6,459 metres. Having received a new kidney from his older brother in 1997, Smith has since marked his life with one athletic milestone after another. In the 2000 national Transplant Games in Sherbrooke, Quebec, he entered six events, including track and tennis, taking home two gold medals, three silvers and a bronze. At the nationals in 2002 in St. John's, he finished with five gold medals in six track events, all of them in the same day.

But none of that could compete with the exhilaration of conquering the highest mountain in Bolivia, he said. Accompanying him on the climb was 36-year-old heart recipient Sylvain Bédard of Montreal, who stopped short of the summit at 6,100 metres – still a record for a heart transplant patient, and by any measure an outstanding accomplishment.

"Sylvain gave me two pictures," said Smith. "He told the whole camp the story why he had them." The pictures were of two teenagers who had slipped into a coma after receiving transplants, never to regain consciousness. Bédard had promised their parents he would take the pictures on his climb. When Bédard could go no further, he gave them to Smith and said, "Do what you can."

"I had my own picture of a young organ transplant recipient who died in October," said Smith. "We knew these people would still be here if they had a second chance. The emotions of reaching the summit, and then all of this – it was just overwhelming." In front of cameras, Smith held up the pictures and took a moment to reflect on their lives.

Before that summit, Smith had never climbed anything higher than the Jasper Tramway trail. He was invited along on



this trip, sponsored by pharmaceutical company Merck Frosst, by Bédard after the two met at the Transplant Games. In addition to Smith and Bédard, the climbing team included three cardiologists, three cameramen, one photographer, guides and a Merck Frosst rep. The cost of the trip, said Smith, was close to \$100,000.

Although it only took two days to reach the summit from base camp at about 4,200 feet, a number of days were spent acclimatizing, he said, by climbing up a little higher each day. "You gotta climb high and sleep low."

One of the most dramatic moments involved jumping over a two-foot crevice near the top. Not a hugely difficult task, as long as you don't think too hard about how far you'll fall if you miss it. "It went down forever," said Smith. "The mountain is actually a dormant volcano, but it's glacier capped, so the whole bowl is full. I think we all cleared that crevice by about two feet."

The emotional impact of reaching the summit took even the seasoned climbers, and local guides, by surprise. Summiting Sajama is a challenge for those in optimum health, said cardiologist Dr. Michel White of the Montreal Heart Institute, who accompanied Smith on his climb. But in Smith's case, the team didn't know what to expect, since, despite receiving a healthy kidney, he still lives with a case of "mild renal failure."

"He's on (anti-rejection) medication and his immune system is depressed, so his overall endurance is reduced," said White, adding that the kidney transplant also changed Smith's fluid balance, making it harder to adapt to altitude. "When you are exposed to high altitude, one of the first things your system does in response is to increase urine volume – you actually pass more water. We didn't know if his system would operate normally."

White said Smith was clearly tired near the top, but it was obvious to everyone that



U of A vehicle pool employee Dave Smith atop Bolivia's Mount Sajama and above, with fellow climbers.

carrying the pictures gave him the extra push he needed to make it. "I was just worried he would make it to the top and have nothing left to come down, but he made it safely to the base camp."

All in all, Smith's success was "completely unexpected," said White, "because it's one heck of a mountain."

Just one more in a series of triumphs for Smith, who is back tuning up university vehicles until the next adventure calls. ■

folio letters to the editor

Thanks neighbour!

Editor, Folio:

The students in Riverbend's enrichment program (Discovery 7,8,9) would like to extend a huge thank you to the University of Alberta. Over the past three months, dozens of professors, administrators, students and staff from virtually every faculty, have taken time from their busy schedules to assist these students; responding to questions related to their field of expertise.

Jesse, a Grade 8 student researching a career in orthodontics, was recently granted a half-day tour of the orthodontics department at the U of A. The experience solidified Jesse's goal to pursue a career in orthodontics!

We appreciate all of your help, and we thank you for your support!

Ms. Harley
Riverbend Junior High
Discovery Program Teacher

folio letters
to the editor

Folio welcomes letters to the editor. Send your thoughts and opinions via e-mail to richard.cairney@ualberta.ca, fax at 492-2997, or by mail to Folio, Office of Public Affairs, 6th Floor General Services Building, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H1. Letters may be edited for grammar, style, accuracy and length.

Undergraduates benefit from research

Campus study uncovers variety of experiences

By Sheilla Jones

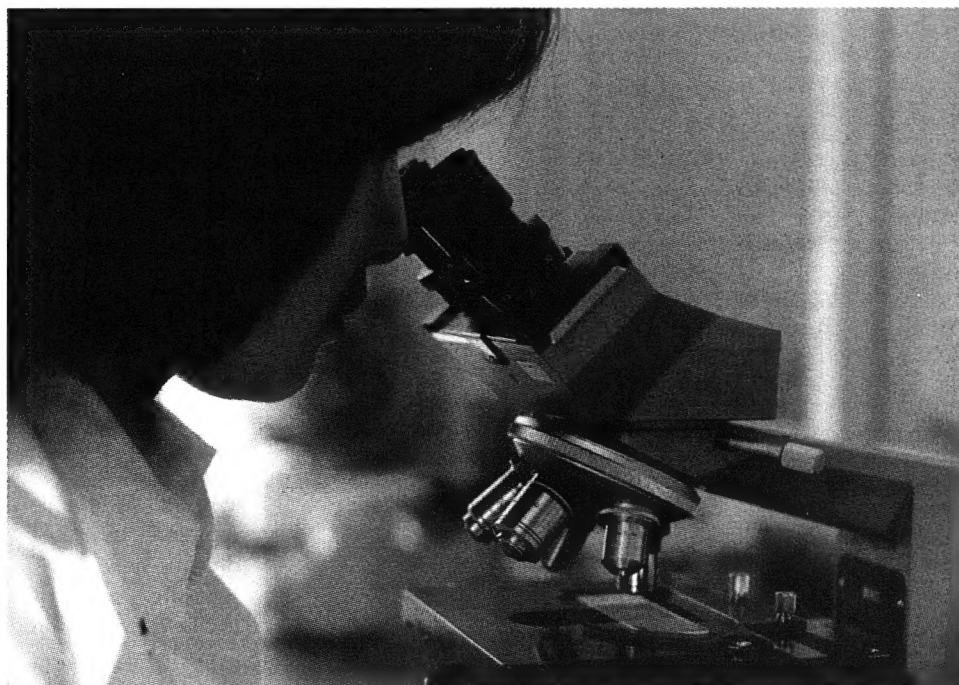
Professors who assume that first-year undergraduates aren't capable of doing meaningful research are in for a surprise. The Working Group on Teaching and Research has just completed the first evaluation of how much undergraduate research is going on at the University of Alberta, and what the committee found was impressive, even in the freshman year.

"I've been mixing teaching and research at the senior level," said Frank Robinson, associate chair of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Science and a Working Group member, "but when the committee talked about improving the freshman year, we weren't sure what we could say about that. There's an idea that you can't really do research in the first year. Sure, you can't ask the same questions as you do in fourth year, but the trick is to ask the right questions."

Inspired by the results of the faculty surveys on the undergraduate research experience, Robinson launched a first-year, research-based course in September. It culminated in an event called There's a Heifer in Your Tank. The lively, public event featured student presentations in front of a packed house at the Telus Centre in late November.

"It was an incredible event. And I think it did a lot for students' confidence to be able to get up and speak that well in front of a crowd in their first year. I wanted to show them that asking questions is OK. They took risks. It was huge. It was unbelievable."

Not all first-year research is quite as dramatic. The Working Group, an ad-hoc committee of professors, administrators and student representatives put together in December of 2003, invited self-surveys from all faculties to establish a baseline for evaluating the undergraduate research experience on campus. The surveys showed that the early undergraduate research experience takes a variety of forms, from being a research subject in PSYCHO 105 to group projects in PHIL 101. Even learning how to navigate through databases or use libraries effectively can be considered to be part of the



A U of A study has found undergraduate students benefit from the university's research activities.

experience, depending on how research is defined.

"I was surprised by the diversity in how people interpret research," said Robinson. "Research means different things to different people, but that just means students have a huge array of ways to pick up understanding of research."

The Working Group was the brain child of Dr. Gary Kachanoski, Vice-President (Research). He has been looking at the importance of integrating teaching and research at the undergraduate level as identified in the 1998 Boyer Commission Report, Reinventing Undergraduate Education: A Blueprint for America's Research Universities.

"Studies such as the Boyer Report have concluded that there is a need to strengthen the integration of teaching and undergraduate research," said Kachanoski. "We're a research-intensive institution, and we need to do a better job of taking the immense resources of our graduate and research programs and integrating them into the undergraduate experience, right from a student's first year."

Students attending a research-inten-

sive university such as the University of Alberta, he said, have a different experience from those who attend colleges or teaching universities.

"I don't want to get into a debate about whether it's better or not, but it's a qualitatively different experience when research is woven into a student's learning experience from the very first year. We have a wealth of resources that are a direct result of research grants, endowments and research chairs, and the Working Group has presented a number of recommendations about how we can better integrate these resources into the undergraduate experience."

The group report, Integrating Research and Teaching at the University of Alberta: Creating a Foundation for an Inquiry-Based Life, has been submitted to the Provost and Vice-President Academic, the Vice-President Research and the Committee on the Learning Environment. It gives an overview of current best practices in undergraduate research on campus. It also makes recommendations on what's needed for integrating teaching and research, developing an academic plan that incorporates the integration of teaching and research, and

facilitating the integration of teaching and research at the undergraduate level.

The group members were surprised at the volume of activities undertaken by faculties and departments that incorporate research into the undergraduate learning experience, but they were concerned that those activities were not being promoted or shared across campus. The committee also noted that "the issue of teaching and research is not foremost in the minds of the campus community."

Olive Yonge, a professor of nursing and chair of the group, doesn't see that as a serious problem. "It's just a matter of getting their attention. It's time for faculty to start talking about the integration of teaching and research at the undergraduate level. Faculty are extremely creative and innovative. I wouldn't presume to tell them how they could utilize the concepts of integrating teaching and research in their courses. But it's been my experience that when you give them a problem to solve, it doesn't take anything for them to come up with innovative solutions."

Like Robinson, what Yonge learned from her participation in the Working Group has already changed the way she teaches. Robinson has some advice for professors who want to incorporate research into their teaching.

"Start small and keep an open mind. There's a lot of good literature out there that's not known to the average teacher because we don't usually read the pedagogy published in journals. And there's a very supportive environment on campus and lots of things happening here and at other universities."

In March, University Teaching Services will be holding sessions on valuing and supporting undergraduate research. The U of A will also be hosting the Canadian Summit on Teaching and Research in August, the first of its kind in Canada.

Copies of the Working Group report and the faculty surveys are now available from the Office of VP (Research) or online at www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/researchandstudents/pdfs/FinalReportWorkingGroup.pdf. ■

Emergency medicine earns department status

Fourth such university department in Canada

By Michael Robb

The University of Alberta has created a Department of Emergency Medicine. Officials with the newly created department say the move reflects the growing importance of the specialty's role and stature in conducting research, teaching, providing clinical services and serving external communities.

Granting department status reflects the maturation of the specialty across the country, says acting chair Dr. Brian Holroyd. The U of A is the fourth Canadian university to create an academic Department of Emergency Medicine. "Our department plans to advance emergency medicine as a discipline and enhance our leadership role within the health care system," Holroyd said.

"Mandatory rotations in emergency medicine at the Doctor of Medicine (MD) undergraduate and postgraduate levels have been established," he added. "We now provide continuing medical education programs and our faculty provide clinical services in six emergency departments in the Capital Health region serving over 335,000 patients per year."

Two residency training programs in emergency medicine exist at the U of A: the College of Family Physicians of

Canada (CFPC-EM) one-year certification program in emergency medicine and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) five-year fellowship training program in emergency medicine. Additional subspecialty training is available in pediatric emergency medicine and critical care medicine fellowship programs. The new department will continue to pursue excellence in its teaching activities and maintain a multi-disciplinary approach to integrating educational innovations.


A key component of the former division's growth has been an increasingly diverse and successful research program, one that reflects a rapidly growing body of knowledge and expertise in emergency medicine. The department has a research director, responsible for co-ordinating a multitude of ongoing studies and other aspects of the research program. A strong research training program, in conjunction with the Department of Public Health Sciences and other departments, is facilitating training emergency medicine researchers of the future.

The creation of the department from its previous divisional status within the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry was possible within existing faculty budgets.

The department operates clinically within Capital Health, one of Canada's largest health authorities. The faculty will be recruiting a full-time chair immediately to

lead the department.

(Michael Robb is director of public affairs in the U of A Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry.) ■



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**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA ACADEMIC PLAN
TOWN HALL MEETING**

Dr. Carl Amrhein, Vice-President (Academic) and Dr. Gary Kachanoski, Vice-President (Research) invite members of the University of Alberta community to join the consultation/planning process that will lead to a new Academic Plan.

Share your thoughts and provide your ideas at the Academic Plan Town Hall Meeting:

MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2-4 P.M.
University Hall Council Chambers

For more information visit: www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/academicplankit/

Piper prize honours promising research efforts

Drs. Dennis Hall and Ron Plotnikoff singled out for groundbreaking work

By Geoff McMaster

A synthetic organic chemist and a researcher in health behaviour change are the recipients of the Martha Cook Piper Research Prize.

Dr. Ron Plotnikoff, who has a joint appointment with the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and the Centre for Health Promotion Studies, and Dr. Dennis Hall of the Department of Chemistry, were recognized for showing exceptional research promise early in their careers. The prize is awarded by the Office of the Vice-President (Research) each year in two distinct areas: the sciences or engineering; and the general area of the humanities, social sciences, law, education and fine arts.

"I was delighted," Plotnikoff said on receiving his award. "It gets the word out that this (research) is meaningful and very relevant to the health of our population. We do have a problem with obesity and inactivity and the link of those things to heart disease and type 2 diabetes." Plotnikoff has been with the U of A since 1998, when he joined the Alberta Centre for Active Living, Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry as a joint research associate.

Plotnikoff, an AHFMR Health Scholar, directs the Physical Activity and Population Health Research lab, testing theories and interventions related to physical activity in the community, workplaces, schools and clinics. He has done work identifying benefits of, and finding ways to promote, physical activity among various



Drs. Dennis Hall and Ron Plotnikoff have earned the Martha Cook Piper Research Prize.

populations, including seniors, diabetics, cardiac patients and children.

"Really it's a focus on the prevention and treatment of diabetes and heart disease and on general health," said Plotnikoff. His lab emphasizes interdisciplinary research and involves partnerships with Capital Health, Alberta Health and Wellness and the Canadian Diabetes Association.

"It is a great credit to Dr. Plotnikoff that he has been able to develop such a com-

prehensive research record, while at the same time working to enhance the health of our Canadian population through the application of his work," said Dean of Physical Education and Recreation Dr. Mike Mahon.

Dr. Dennis Hall, who joined the U of A's chemistry department in 1997, works on the chemical synthesis of organic molecules used to develop new drugs, focusing particularly on the role of boronic acids in creating crucial chemical reactions.

"I was very happy and quite surprised,"

Hall said of the Piper Prize. "It's a special award in the sense that they're comparing apples and oranges. I'm not compared with other chemists - for this award they compare people from different departments and faculties, and I think this is the first award like that I've obtained."

One of Hall's biggest challenges, he says, is controlling the "stereochemistry" of the molecules he creates. Many molecules are formed in pairs, called enantiomers,

which are mirror images of each other.

"Usually only one form is biologically active and gives the desired reaction," said Hall. "It's very important for chemists to develop reactions that are enantio-selective, so you can control which one you get."

Hall points to the thalidomide disaster of the 1960s as an example of enantiomers gone awry. Thalidomide caused severe birth defects in children whose mothers took the drug as a treatment for morning sickness. One molecule produced the desired result while its companion caused unexpected damage.

As a result, pharmaceutical companies are now expected to produce drugs in pure "anantiomeric" forms, said Hall, who hopes boronic acids will help him achieve that goal.

"Dennis Hall is a rarity," the chemistry department's nomination of Hall states. "Seldom does one see a relatively recently hired colleague follow such a steep arc to international distinction... He is a committed and effective educator, a generous departmental citizen, and an enthusiastic devotee of science and participant in the scientific community."

The Martha Cook Piper Research Prize was established to commemorate the significant contribution Dr. Martha Piper made to the research community while she was Vice-President (Research) and Vice-President (Research and External Affairs) at the University of Alberta between 1993 and 1996. Piper is current president of the University of British Columbia. ■

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UNTIL FEB. 25, 2005

RUTHERFORD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING The GFC University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC) announces to the university community that nominations are now being sought for the annual Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. At least one award, but not more than five, is given annually. The purpose of the Rutherford Award is to recognize excellent teaching, to publicize such excellence to the university and the wider community, to encourage the pursuit of excellence in teaching, and to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement at the University of Alberta. Nominations are made by faculties that teach undergraduate students, and information about the nomination procedures and adjudication criteria has been sent to those Faculties. Nominations should be made through a Faculty committee and submitted by the faculty to the secretary of UTAC, 2-5 University Hall. Anyone who needs assistance and advice in preparing nominations should contact Ms Bente Roed, Director, University Teaching Services, 215 Central Academic Building (492-2826). The deadline for receipt of award nominations is Friday, February 25, 2005 at 4:30 pm. In most cases, individual Faculties have established earlier deadlines to allow for internal adjudication procedures. Award recipients are publicly recognized at a special reception, at Convocation, and at the Celebration of Teaching and Learning. They also receive a memento and a cash prize of \$3000. The prize is awarded to the recipients as a cheque.

UNTIL FEB. 25, 2005

WILLIAM HARDY ALEXANDER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SESSIONAL TEACHING The GFC University Teaching Awards Committee (UTAC) announces to the University community that nominations are now being sought for the William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Sessional Teaching. A maximum of two awards is given annually. The purpose of the William Hardy Alexander Award is to recognize excellent teaching by sessional academic staff, to publicize such excellence to the university and the wider community, to encourage the pursuit of excellence in teaching, and to promote informed discussion of teaching and its improvement at the University of Alberta. Nominations are made by Faculties that teach undergraduate students, and information about the nomination procedures and adjudication criteria has been sent to those Faculties. Nominations should be made through a Faculty committee and submitted by the Faculty to the Secretary of UTAC, 2-5 University Hall. Anyone who needs assistance and advice in preparing nominations should contact Ms Bente Roed, Director, University Teaching Services, 215 Central Academic Building (492-2826). The deadline for receipt of award nominations is Friday, February 25, 2005 at 4:30 pm. In most cases, individual Faculties have established earlier deadlines to allow for internal adjudication procedures. Award recipients are publicly recognized at a special reception, at Convocation, and at the Celebration of Teaching and Learning. They also receive a memento and a cash prize of \$3000. The prize is awarded to the recipients as a cheque.

UNTIL JAN. 19, 2005

Is It Art? Is It Art? an exhibition composed of found art, prints, and various objects, encourages you to examine your definition of art. Is a reproduction art? Does art have to be created? Does the medium determine what art is? The Extension Centre Gallery is asking these and other questions with this exhibit. You are invited to come and give your opinion on individual pieces as well as the whole exhibit itself. Phone 492-0166 for information or visit our website at www.extension.ualberta.ca/liberalstudies 2nd Floor, University Extension Centre, 8303-112 Street

JAN. 7, 2005

Pandas Basketball Pandas vs. University of Saskatchewan, 6:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m., U of A Main Gym

Bears Basketball Bears vs. University of Saskatchewan, 8:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., U of A Main Gym

JAN. 8, 2005

Pandas Basketball Pandas vs. University of Saskatchewan, 6:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m., U of A Main Gym

Bears Basketball Bears vs. University of Saskatchewan, 8:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., U of A Main Gym

U of A Ringette Game Come watch the fast paced and exciting action as the U of A Ringette team takes on another tough opponent. Enjoy all the thrills of this new U of A team. 8:30 p.m. - 9:45 p.m., Clare Drake Arena, Van Vliet Physical Education and Recreation Centre

JAN. 10, 2005

Visiting Speaker - Department of Chemistry Professor Victor J. Hruby Regents Professor of Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA will speak on "New Chemical Paradigms for Drug Design: The Impact of Genomics and Proteomics." 11:00 a.m., V-107 Physics Wing

U of A Ringette Game Come watch the fast paced and exciting action as the U of A Ringette team takes on another tough opponent. Enjoy all the thrills of this new U of A team. 8:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., Sportsplex Arena

JAN. 12, 2005

PHS Grand Rounds Guest Speaker: Dr James Smythe, AHFMR Population Health Investigator; Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Alberta "The Economics of Technology Diffusion in Health Care." 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building

Hear's to your Health Martin Riseley, violin, Allene Hackleman, French horn, Jacques Després, piano, Beethoven Sonata in F for violin and piano. Op 24 "Spring" Brahms Trio for violin, piano and horn, Op 40. Admission is free and open to the public. 5:00 p.m., Foyer, Bernard Snell Auditorium. Walter MacKenzie Centre. University Hospital

JAN. 13, 2005

Lunch by the Books "The ABCs of symphony strings: The function of a violin in a symphony orchestra" will be presented by Dr. Guillaume Tardif, an assistant professor of violin and chamber music in the Department of Music. Participants are welcome to bring their lunch to the sessions. 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Stanley A. Milner Library, Centre for Reading and the Arts, main floor

The Same Sex Marriage Reference: A Legal Analysis Presented by the Faculty of Law and the Centre for Constitutional Studies with Professor Barbara Billingsley speaking on "Constitutional Law and the Same Sex Marriage Reference" and Professor Joanna Harrington speaking on "International Law and the Same Sex Marriage Reference." 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., RM 237 Law Centre

Making Career Fairs Work for you! Brown Bag Lunch Seminar presented by CaPS. Do you need to nourish your career? Drop by CaPS for some food for thought on a variety of career-related topics. The purpose of these seminars is to provide you with valuable tips for career decision making and finding work that matches your career choices, as well as information and direction regarding the resources available at Caps and elsewhere. All seminars are FREE of charge & take place at CaPS, 2-100 SUB (With the exception of seminars for Augustana Faculty students). Pre-registration is NOT required. 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m., 2-100 Students' Union Building (SUB)

John Matthews: "A Year in the Life of the UNMO" Major (ret'd) John Matthews (Le Royal XX Regiment) served with the Canadian Forces assigned to United Nations peacekeeping in the Middle East in 1975-76. His first-hand account of the conditions he encountered will be illustrated with the numerous slides he took at the time. This Edmonton Mediterranean Institute presentation is open to staff, students, and the public -- all are welcome. 7:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m., Tory Breezeway TB-W2

JAN. 14, 2005

Smoke-free Homes and Vehicles: Opportunities and Challenges Dr. Roberta Ferrence, Director, Ontario Tobacco Research Unit, will present a seminar entitled "Smoke-free Homes and Vehicles: Opportunities and Challenges" on Friday January 14th, 2005 at 10:30am. Everyone welcome. No registration required. 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Classroom D, 2f1.04, W.C. Mackenzie Health Sciences Complex

Annual Dispersal of the Burrowing Owl and Implications for its Conservation Jason Duxbury and Geoff Holroyd with the Canadian Wildlife Services present a seminar on "Annual Dispersal of the Burrowing Owl and Implications for its Conservation." 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., M-141, Biological Sciences Building

Doctoral Literacy Research Symposium Lunch will be served at 12:15. Please RSVP to Cherie Geering at cgeering@ualberta.ca. Presentations by: Robyn Cloughesy, Claudia Fevrier, Young-A Lee, Gholam Moteallemi, Joyce Purdy, Jean Reston, Pamela Young and Rochelle Skogan. 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., 651a Education South

"Visualizing Calcutta's Modernities: A Cautionary Note?" Describing contemporary India in terms of contradiction, paradox and anachronism has become cliché. But it is this overwhelming crush of traditions and modernities, of globalism,

the urban and the village, of a secularized urbanism and a spiritual Lebenswelt that breathes through the pores of the everyday, which renders it so fascinating and so opaque. But, the appeal of contradiction is that it emphasizes a European singularity which speaks of a linear progress to a pre-determined futurity. The presentation, with its rich visual component, will try to ask a few questions about possible ethical problems with witnessing, recording and reveling in contradiction. Speaker TBA. 4:00 p.m., Tory Building 5-15

Contempo Concert Recent works by student composers (Music 460). 5:00 p.m., Studio 27 Fine Arts Building

Music at Convocation Hall Tanya Prochazka, cello "Bach by Candlelight" Part I of the Suites for Unaccompanied Cello (BWV 1008, 1009, 1010) Johann Sebastian Bach No 2 in D Minor No 3 in C Major No 4 in E-Flat Major. 8:00 p.m., Arts Building/Convocation Hall

JAN. 15, 2005

On blasting stone buddhas, banning heads-carves, and bashing idols: Modern culture and the death of relativism Our Philosophers' Cafes offer you the opportunity to hear one of our U of A scholars speak on a topic; participants are then encouraged to converse freely and openly about issues arising, as presenters become the catalyst and resource for ensuing discussions. Our cafes are always informative and lively, and often deeply entertaining. The above topic will be presented by Dr. Jean DeBernardi, a professor in the Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Arts. 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., Nina's Restaurant, 10139 - 124 Street, Edmonton

Music at Convocation Hall Tanya Prochazka, cello "Bach by Candlelight" Part II of the Suites for Unaccompanied Cello (BWV 1007, 1011, 1012), Johann Sebastian Bach, No 1 in G Major, No 5 in C Minor, No 6 in D Major. 8:00 p.m., Arts Building/Convocation Hall

JAN. 17, 2005

Education Career Fair This on-campus event

will introduce more 70 school boards and organizations to University of Alberta education students. This is a students' opportunity to meet face-to-face with potential employers and learn about employment and volunteer opportunities. Recruiters from the U.S. (New York, Los Angeles), England, Mexico, Japan, Taiwan, New Zealand, Australia, and Slovenia will be in attendance. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., U of A Butterdome

Music at Noon, Convocation Hall Student Recital Series Featuring students from the Department of Music. 12:00 p.m., Arts Building/Convocation Hall

Distinguished Lecture Series Department of Computing Science Distinguished Lecture Series. Dr Eric Hehner, Professor, Dept of Computer Science, University of Toronto, will present a lecture entitled, "From Boolean Algebra to Unified Algebra." Please join us for coffee and cookies at 3:00 p.m., lecture to follow at 3:30 p.m., Computing Science Centre B-02.

Composers Concert Featuring recent works by U of A Student Composers. 8:00 p.m., Studio 27 Fine Arts Building

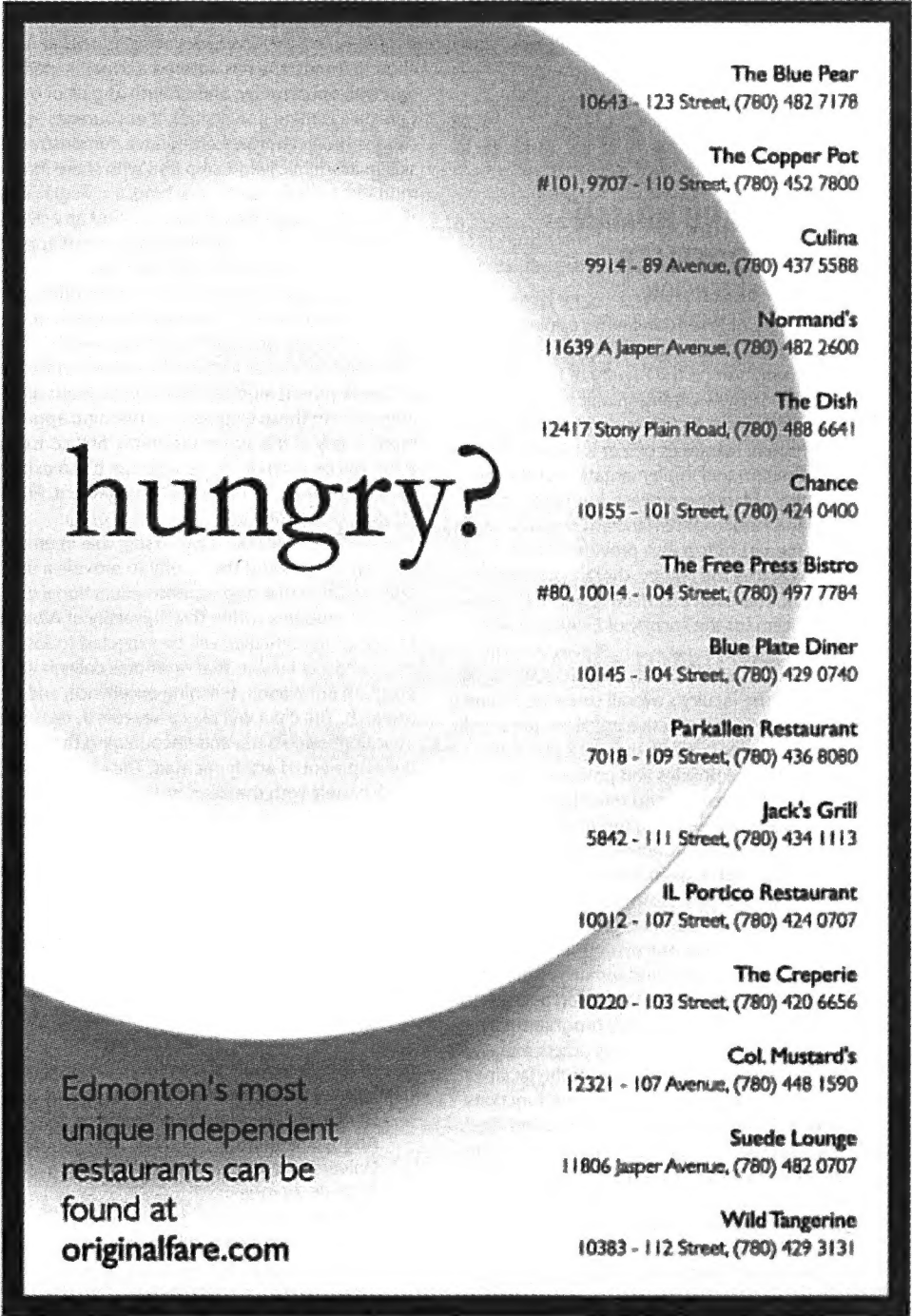
U of A Ringette Game Come watch the fast paced and exciting action as the U of A Ringette team takes on another tough opponent. Enjoy all the thrills of this new U of A team. 8:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., Sportsplex Arena

JAN. 18, 2005

Public Health Law III - Ethical Issues Health Law Institute Seminar Series Dr. Ross Upshur, Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Centre. 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Room 237 Law Centre

JAN. 19, 2005

PHS Grand Rounds Don Juzwishin, Director, Health Technology Assessment, Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research; Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences: "What do Politicians and Policy Makers Really Want from the Research Evidence?" 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m., Room 2-117, Clinical Sciences Building



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The records arising from this competition will be managed in accordance with provisions of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity of employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons. With regard to teaching positions: All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. For complete U of A job listings visit www.hrs.ualberta.ca

ASSISTANT CHAIR (STUDENT SERVICES) – FACULTY SERVICES OFFICER DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Established in 1908, the University of Alberta is recognized for its scholarly achievements and commitment to excellence in teaching, research and service to the community and was recently identified by The Scientist as the second-best place to do research outside of the United States. The Department of Chemistry at the University of Alberta is one of the best equipped and best funded in North America and has a faculty renowned internationally for their excellence in teaching and research.

The Department of Chemistry invites applications for a Faculty Services Officer position – the Assistant Chair (Student Services). This position is expected to be a focal point and leader for teaching and/or research support in the department. The position will have primary responsibility for maintaining and enforcing university and faculty policy on academic standards in the chemistry program; provide career and course advice to students in chemistry and establish a research program in an area that complements and supports the teaching or research missions of the department.

Key characteristics sought for the position are the ability to interact professionally and credibly with industry, faculty, staff and students; to evaluate and determine academic transfer credit for courses obtained at other institutions; and to develop and foster the Industrial Internship program (IIP) in the Department of Chemistry.

Applicants will have a PhD in chemistry or closely related field plus directly related work experience and demonstrated experience in student advising and student program development. Teaching experience at a university level would be an asset. Good communication skills are essential, since the position will involve regular interaction with faculty, teaching assistants and students. A commitment to excellence in all aspects of undergraduate chemistry teaching is required.

Currently, the salary for an FSO II ranges from \$51,768 to \$73,320 per year. The actual salary will depend on the qualifications of the successful candidate.

Applications must be received by January 31, 2005. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, a cover letter, and a statement of teaching philosophy or interests and arrange to have three confidential letters of recommendation sent on their behalf, prior to the application deadline, to:

Dr. Martin Cowie, Chair
Department of Chemistry
E3-38 Gunning/Lemieux Chemistry Centre
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G2

PLANNING AND HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER FACULTY OF EXTENSION

The Faculty of Extension invites applications for the position of Planning and Human Resources Officer. Information on the Faculty of Extension can be found at www.extension.ualberta.ca

Reporting to the dean of extension, the planning and human resources officer is responsible for the co-ordination and implementation of the faculty's strategic planning process, human resources planning and faculty governance. The planning and human resources officer also provides leadership in these areas across the faculty, thereby helping to create and to maintain an effective administrative support system for the Faculty of Extension, and the office of the dean.

Key responsibilities of this role include: the co-ordination of the faculty's overall strategic planning process to ensure the effective implementation of the strategic business plans; the implementation of human resource policies and practices that are consistent with attracting and retaining outstanding faculty and staff, ensuring pro-active efforts to build a team-based environment; following-up on decisions made by the dean and other members of the dean's management team; acting as an integrator in the faculty by facilitating problem solving to enhance optimal lateral processes; providing comprehensive administrative and research support services to the dean; advising the dean and faculty in a wide range of administrative programming issues, and ensuring best business practices.

This position supports all areas of the faculty and a wide variety of projects, programs, functions and services. Three administrative staff report directly to the incumbent in support of the faculty's planning and human resources services. The incumbent will provide advice to both academic and support staff in the programming and service units.

The successful candidate will have:

- A university degree specializing in organization theory, management and/or human relations

(i.e., B.Comm, MBA, MPA).

- Professional certification in the CHRP or IPMA-CP program considered an asset.
- Extensive knowledge of the University of Alberta's policies, procedures and operating requirements.
- Experience facilitating strategic planning in higher education.
- Experience in an HR environment in the public sector; understanding of the nature of collective agreements.
- Ability to operate within a complex, multi-faceted and highly decentralized work environment.
- Experience working in fast paced cost-recovery environment.
- Ability to work independently and as a strong team player.
- Ability to act decisively and to exercise a high degree of initiative and judgement on a wide range of issues.

- Excellent analytical and organizational skills.
- Superior oral and written presentation skills as well as interpersonal and negotiation skills.
- Skill in building productive and supportive working relationships.

This is a full-time continuing Administrative Professional Officer position with a salary range of \$43,524 to \$68,920 per annum that will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. This position includes a comprehensive benefits package.

Please submit a résumé and the names of three references by January 14, 2005 electronically to extdean@ualberta.ca or by mail to:

Dr. Cheryl S. McWatters, Dean, Faculty of Extension, 2-02B 8303 112 St., University Extension Centre, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2T4

We thank all applicants; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

CHAIR DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AUGUSTANA FACULTY

The University of Alberta's new Augustana Faculty invites applications for the position of chair of the Department of Social Sciences, commencing July 1, 2005. The appointment will be made at the rank of associate or full professor.

Augustana is an undergraduate liberal arts and sciences campus of about 1,000 students located in Camrose, an attractive city of about 15,000, 90 km southeast of Edmonton. After a long educational history, including two decades as an independent, degree-granting university college of the Lutheran church, Augustana has entered a dynamic period of renewal, opportunity, and growth as part of one of Canada's leading universities. It encourages applications from candidates who have demonstrated skill in academic leadership and who share its commitment to high-quality teaching, a collegial, interdisciplinary academic community, and an active culture of inquiry and public engagement appropriate to an undergraduate, rural setting.

The Department of Social Sciences offers degree programs in Economics/Management, History, Political Studies, Psychology, and Sociology, as well as an interdisciplinary initiative in Development Studies. While applications are invited from those eligible for a teaching appointment in any of the above programs, first consideration will be given to those who can fill an existing vacancy in any of Economics/Management, Political Studies, or Psychology.

The chair will take a leadership role in enabling the department and the faculty to provide a distinctive, attractive, and rigorous educational experience for students within the University of Alberta. The chair, in particular, will be expected to foster a department culture that promotes collegiality, program innovation, teaching excellence, and research. The chair will play a key role in recruiting, orienting, evaluating, and encouraging the career development of academic staff. The chair will also work closely with the dean, senior administrators, other chairs, and important external constituencies to advance the interests of the department and the faculty. The chair will bring to the position an exemplary record in teaching, research, and service.

For information about Augustana, please consult the faculty website at www.augustana.ca. Inquiries concerning this position should be directed to the acting dean.

Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, including evidence of successful teaching and samples of scholarly work, and arrange to have three confidential letters of reference sent to:

Dr. Roger Epp, Dean (Acting)
Augustana Faculty
University of Alberta
4901-46 Avenue
Camrose, AB, Canada T4V 2R3
E-mail: Roger.Epp@ualberta.ca
Telephone: 780-679-1103
Closing date for applications is January 22,

2005, or until a suitable candidate is found.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, AUGUSTANA FACULTY

The University of Alberta's new Augustana Faculty is at the initial stages of a dynamic program of renewal and growth. It invites applications in a number of key areas. At least six tenure-track positions at the rank of assistant professor are expected to commence July 1, 2005.

The Augustana Faculty teaches about 1,000 undergraduate students on a picturesque residential campus in the city of Camrose, 90 km southeast of Edmonton. After a long educational history, including two decades as an independent, degree-granting university college of the Lutheran church, Augustana was incorporated into the University of Alberta in July 2004. The faculty is committed to building on its reputation for rigorous, high-quality teaching in the tradition of the liberal arts and sciences, and, in doing so, providing a distinctive undergraduate academic experience for students within one of Canada's leading universities. It seeks to attract promising scholars who will share its enthusiasm for teaching in a small-campus environment, participate actively in a collegial culture of inquiry and public engagement, and flourish as researchers in an undergraduate, interdisciplinary, and rural location.

For all positions, the ability to contribute to areas of interdisciplinary strength and interest for the faculty will be an asset. Those areas include environmental studies, international development studies, rural and northern studies, and women's studies. Long-term interest in, and potential for, academic leadership may also be a consideration in an appointment.

For information about Augustana and particular programs, please consult the faculty website at www.augustana.ca. Inquiries concerning any of the positions in this advertisement should be directed to the chair of the relevant department.

CHEMISTRY

The Department of Science invites applications for a position in Chemistry. The successful candidate will have a PhD in either Physical or Analytical Chemistry and will be expected to teach courses in both areas, to complement the program's existing strengths in Organic and Inorganic Chemistry. Applicants should be interested in helping to build a high-quality, student-friendly, teaching-oriented Chemistry program that also recognizes the value of research.

COMPUTING SCIENCE

The Department of Science invites applications for a position in Computing Science. Any area of specialization within the discipline will be considered, but the ability to teach a variety of the core courses of a standard computing science curriculum will be required. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to teach small classes at all undergraduate levels and to work in a relaxed, small urban setting 90 km southeast of Edmonton. This position is advertised at the rank of assistant professor, though consideration may be given to other outstanding applicants.

The successful candidate preferably will hold, or have nearly completed, a PhD in Computing Science. Should a suitable candidate for a tenure-track appointment not be found, applications for a term appointment will be accepted. The successful candidate for the term appointment as lecturer in Computing Science will hold a Master's degree in computing science and will have the ability to teach a variety of the core courses of a standard computing science curriculum.

DRAMA

The Department of Fine Arts invites applications for a position in Drama. The successful candidate will be one of three faculty members in a program that offers a highly integrated, ensemble-based education in the context of a liberal arts and sciences program. As a result, faculty members are expected to be versatile generalists, able to teach courses in performance areas as well as lecture courses in history and theory at both the introductory and senior levels. Since experiential learning is central to this program, participation in major productions is expected. Therefore, practical knowledge and experience in producing public performances are assets.

Generalists with any combination of experience and expertise are invited to apply but those with particular strengths in movement and physical theatre, or in theatre history and literature, will be closely considered. Applicants should hold either a PhD or a Master of Fine Arts degree in theatre, combined with relevant professional experience. Demonstrated teaching ability at the post-secondary level will be a strong asset.

ECONOMICS/MANAGEMENT

The Department of Social Sciences invites applications for a position that involves teaching in

both the Economics and Management programs. Any area of specialization will be considered, but preference will be given to candidates whose teaching interests include Industrial Organization and who can contribute to the development of a relatively new Management program. Applicants should hold a PhD in Economics, Finance, or Business, or be close to completion of that degree.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE/STUDIES

The Department of Science invites applications for a position in Environmental Science/Studies. The successful candidate will contribute to two proposed interdisciplinary programs, a B.Sc. in Environmental Science and a BA in Environmental Studies. Candidates should be able to teach GIS, statistics, and senior courses in a specialty area. Ability to teach related environmental courses (e.g., resource management, freshwater systems, field methods, history, or politics) would be an asset. Applicants should possess or be near completion of a PhD in Environmental Science/Studies, Geography, or a related field.

ENGLISH

The Department of Humanities invites applications for a position in English. The successful candidate will be one of five faculty members in an English program that covers most periods and areas of literary studies. As a result, faculty members are expected to be versatile generalists, able to teach introductory survey courses and senior courses in several areas. Applicants should be able to teach courses in at least two of the follow-

Faculty of Science University of Alberta

Announcement

Faculty of Science Research Award

We are seeking nominations for the Faculty's most promising young scientists for this annual award, which recognizes outstanding research achievement. Nominees must have obtained their doctorates in 1993 or later.

**Deadline:
January 14, 2005**

For details of eligibility and conditions, please contact:

Dr. Bill Samuel
Associate Dean (Research)
E-mail: bill.samuel@ualberta.ca
(780) 492-3169

Faculty of Science Award for Excellent Teaching

We are seeking nominations from students and departments in the Faculty of Science for this annual award for individuals with outstanding qualities in undergraduate teaching.

**Deadline:
January 21, 2005**

For details of eligibility and conditions, please contact:

Dr. W.J. Page
Associate Dean
E-mail: bill.page@ualberta.ca
(780) 492-9452

ing areas: U.S. Literature, Post-Colonial/Diasporic Literature, Women's Writing, Creative Writing, Children's Literature, or other and/or emerging areas. Applicants should hold a PhD or be close to completion of that degree. In the case of an applicant specializing in Creative Writing, a Master's degree and a substantial record of publication will be considered.

PHILOSOPHY

The Department of Humanities invites applications for a position in Philosophy. The successful candidate will become the fourth member of a proposed new degree program in Philosophy, Religion, and Culture. The candidate should have expertise in at least one area of the history of philosophy and be competent to teach a variety of undergraduate classes, including introductory courses and critical thinking. The ability to teach a course in Philosophy and the Environment will be an asset. Applicants should hold a PhD or be close to completion of that degree.

PHYSICS

The Department of Science invites applications for a position in Physics. The successful candidate will become the fourth member of a degree program in Mathematics and Physics. Candidates specializing in any area of physics will be considered, but preference will be given to those able to teach a wide variety of physics courses at the undergraduate level. The successful candidate will also be expected to teach some undergraduate mathematics courses, primarily at the first-year level. Applicants should hold or be near completion of a PhD degree.

POLITICAL STUDIES

The Department of Social Sciences invites applications for a position in Political Studies. The successful candidate will be expected to teach primarily in international relations or political philosophy, as well as a second area of specialization that can broaden the program's course offerings. The ability to contribute to faculty initiatives in global and development studies or to a potential University initiative in Peace and Conflict Studies will be considered an asset. Applicants should possess or be near completion of a PhD.

PSYCHOLOGY

The Department of Social Sciences invites applications for a position in Psychology. The successful candidate will teach a range of courses in the area of applied social psychology as well as introductory psychology. Ability to create opportunities for undergraduate research will be considered an asset. Areas of expertise that would fit particularly well given our academic and community context include aging, gender, or health; however, we will consider all areas of specialization within applied social psychology. Applicants should possess or be near completion of a PhD.

All appointments will be made at the rank of assistant professor. The current salary scale begins at \$51,768; the benefit package is comprehensive.

Applicants should submit curriculum vitae, including evidence of successful teaching and samples of scholarly work, and arrange to have transcripts and three confidential letters of reference sent to:

Dr. Roger Epp
Dean (Acting)
Augustana Faculty
University of Alberta
4901-46 Avenue
Camrose, AB, T4V 2R3
Email: Roger.Epp@ualberta.ca

Closing date for applications is January 22, 2005, or until a suitable candidate is found.

DIRECTOR, ATHLETICS

FACULTY OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION

Applications are invited for the position of director, athletics in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation at the University of Alberta. As part of a senior leadership team within the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, the director is responsible for the leadership and administration of one of the finest interuniversity athletic programs in the nation. The prime objective of the director is to lead approximately 21 teams, 80 full- and part-time staff and 400 student-athletes, in a financially responsible and efficient manner. Some of the key responsibilities of the

director, Athletics, are to provide innovative sport leadership in both the university and the broader community, develop and implement a comprehensive strategic business plan, provide effective management within a complex human resource environment, foster a student-athlete and coach centred environment, develop a strong network of support locally, provincially and nationally through contemporary marketing and communications strategies, and work collaboratively with key leaders within the faculty and university to develop an integrated strategy for achieving the visions of the faculty and university.

The successful applicant will possess a university degree (a graduate degree will be given strong preference), significant management and human resources experience, and an excellent understanding of sport in Canada.

This is a two-year rolling appointment. The salary range is \$56,900- \$95,000, plus a comprehensive benefits package, commensurate with education and experience.

The Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation serves approximately 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students. It offers several degree programs: BA, BPE, BSc Kinesiology, MSc, MA and PhD as well as a combined BPE/BED that is offered jointly with the Faculty of Education. In conjunction with the School of Business, it offers an MBA in Sport and Leisure Management.

In addition to its academic programs, the faculty has a full intercollegiate program of 12 sports and an extremely large and active Campus Recreation Program. The faculty has full operational responsibilities for university sport and recreation facilities. Further information about the U of A and the faculty may be obtained from <http://www.ualberta.ca> and <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/per/>.

Please submit your résumé in confidence by Friday, January 14, 2005 to:

Dr. Michael J. Mahon, Dean
Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation
Room W1-34, Van Vliet Centre
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2H9 Canada
E-mail: perdean@ualberta.ca
Telephone: (780) 492-3364
Fax: (780) 492-1008

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR POLITICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Political Science at the University of Alberta invites applications for a full-time tenure-track position in International Relations/International Political Economy at the Assistant Professor level commencing July 1, 2005. The position entails the teaching of junior and senior undergraduate courses in international relations and international political economy, graduate courses in those areas, and an active program of research resulting in publications. Teaching and research specialization in United States foreign, trade or security policy would be an asset, as would be the ability to attract research funding. Applicants should have a completed PhD in Political Science.

Candidates should submit a letter of application, a curriculum vitae, copies of publications, and names of three academic references to:

Professor Fred Judson, Chair
Department of Political Science
10-16 HM Tory Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2H4
Email: fred.judson@ualberta.ca

Closing date for the competition: January 31, 2005.

TENURE TRACK FACULTY POSITIONS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Applications are invited for tenure-track positions in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Alberta. The department offers two degrees: an entry-level MPT degree, and a thesis-based, MSc degree in physical therapy. The department also participates fully in an interdisciplinary PhD degree program in rehabilitation science.

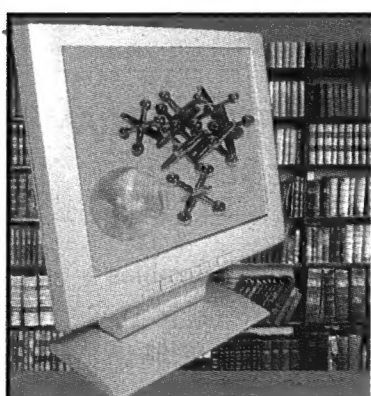
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Tel: 780.492.7237

Email: anna.bordian@ualberta.ca



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www.healthyconference.ualberta.ca

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA UNITED WAY 2004 CAMPAIGN FINAL REPORT

Many thanks

To our United Way Committee members, all our staff, students, retirees and on-campus businesses as well as to all the prize donors and sponsors.

The **2004 United Way Campaign** was the most successful in the history of the University of Alberta's association with the United Way of the Alberta Capital Region.

GOAL: \$475,000	DOLLARS RAISED	TOTAL: \$495,928
GOAL: 1,200	DONORS	TOTAL: 1,050
GOAL: 200	LEADERS OF THE WAY	TOTAL: 168
GOAL: 50	CAMPUS LEADERS	TOTAL: 69

Congratulations to

Dr. Laing Li, Chemistry

our Early Bird winner of the weekend stay at the Delta Resort at Kananaskis

Dr. Rosalind Kerr, Drama

our New Donor winner of the Air Canada ticket to anywhere in North America

Terrance Nord, Mechanical Engineering

our Final Prize winner of the \$1,000 travel voucher sponsored by Flight Centre



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Qualified candidates should hold a doctoral degree and have a proven record of scholarly activity in teaching and research. Candidates should have a well-defined research agenda. Evidence of successful grant applications will be advantageous. All areas of research related to physical therapy are of interest. Responsibilities will include teaching in both the entry-level and thesis-based programs, and maintaining an active research program.

Within the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine, interdisciplinary research groups focus on common spinal disorders, movement disorders and rehabilitation, child development and aging. Many opportunities for research collaboration are also available on campus, such as the Alberta Centre on Aging, the University Centre for Neuroscience, the Institute of Health Economics, Alberta Heart Institute, the Alberta Provincial CIHR Training Program in Bone and Joint Health, the Centre for Health Promotion Studies, the Community University Partnership for the Study of Children Youth and Families, the Perinatal Research Centre and the Health Care Quality Outcomes Research Centre. Close working relationships exist with the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital and other community-based programs in physical therapy. This provides a dynamic, rich environment for physical therapy education and research. Numerous members of the department are also actively engaged in international education, service and research programs.

Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications at the Assistant Professor or Associate Professor level. The positions are available immediately. Review of applications will commence on Jan. 15, 2005 and continue until the positions are filled. Interested applicants should send a curriculum vitae and a statement of teaching and research interests to:

Dr. Albert Cook, Dean
Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine
3-48 Corbett Hall
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G4
Phone: 780-492-5991 Fax: 780-492-1626

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

The Department of Sociology invites applications for two tenure-track positions at the Assistant Professor level in the areas of Social Inequality/Social Policy and Classical Social Theory, commencing July 1, 2005. The benefits package is comprehensive. A PhD is required at the time of appointment, and applicants must demonstrate a strong record/outstanding potential for research, excellent communication and teaching skills, and leadership potential.

(1) Social Inequality/Social Policy: Preference will be given to applicants with teaching and research interests in poverty, social class, race/racism, and related areas of social inequality and who emphasize the social policy implications of their research.

(2) Classical Social Theory: Preference will be given to applicants with teaching and research interests in comparative historical sociology, social and political thought, and sociology of knowledge.

Applicants should submit a letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and arrange for three confidential letters of reference to be sent by Jan. 10, 2005 to:
Dr. R. A. Sydie, Professor and Chair
Department of Sociology
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H4 Canada
Fax: (780) 492-7196

For additional information, the Sociology website is at www.arts.ualberta.ca/socweb/

RECRUITMENT OFFICER FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND HOME ECONOMICS

The Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics (AFHE) invites applications for the position of Recruitment Officer.

Reporting to the Associate Dean (Academic), the Recruitment Officer will develop the recruitment goals and initiatives for the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics. The incumbent will play a leadership role in carrying out the recruitment and promotion activities of the Faculty with the goal of meeting internal and university enrolment targets. The incumbent will represent the Faculty in a wide range of public events locally and nationally. In collaboration with the Faculty's Communications Officer, the incumbent will ensure that recruitment materials, publications and outreach to the public are effective and consistent with the overall mission of the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics and the University of Alberta.

The successful candidate will have:

- A post-secondary degree with a background in communications and/or marketing or a degree in a field related to the Faculty's disciplines.
- Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills.
- Proven ability in public speaking.
- A strong commitment to student service.
- A current and broad layman's knowledge about developments in the fields of study in the Faculty – agriculture, forestry, environmental and

conservation sciences, nutrition and food science and human ecology and be able to enthusiastically provide information on these fields to current and prospective students, and the general public.

This is a two-year contract position with a salary range of \$43,300 - \$72,200.

Applications, including a résumé and the names of three references, should be sent by January 15th, 2005 to:

Dr. Anne Naeth, Associate Dean (Academic)
University of Alberta
Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics
2-14 Agriculture/Forestry Centre
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2P5

The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity in employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal person

DIRECTOR MBA PLACEMENT SERVICES SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The School of Business is seeking a Director, MBA Placement Services. The Director is responsible to assist MBA students in three main areas:

- career development;
- securing internships; and
- obtaining full-time employment.

Although the Director reports to the Associate Dean (MBA Programs), he/she will be required to work closely with the Director and staff of the Office of Placement Services to develop a sound career development and placement program to meet the needs of MBA students.

The Director is responsible for:

- developing and updating a career development program for MBA students (this involves, but is not limited to, relevant workshops, securing outside speakers, internet-based tools, and one-on-one consultations);
- developing and updating a plan for preparing MBA students for successful participation in an effective employment search;
- assisting MBA students in securing remunerated, business-related summer internships;
- assisting MBA students in developing a strategy that will enhance their opportunities for finding full-time employment upon graduation;
- initiating, as appropriate, communications with businesses and other agencies with a view of developing summer internship and full-time employment opportunities for MBA students;
- contributing to the development, maintenance, and enhancement of the School of Business's relationships with employers;
- assisting with the promotion of the MBA program;
- developing and updating the careers/internships segments of the MBA program website.
- tracking alumni

Preferred Qualifications

- a Master of Business Administration degree and at least five years of work experience, or equivalent;
- strong interpersonal, communication, organizational and computing skills are necessary;
- experience in the areas of training, teaching, career planning, and placement is an asset;
- incumbent will be flexible, professional, and willing to take initiative;
- incumbent may be required to travel.

Salary range is \$50,000 to \$70,000, depending on qualifications. Interested applicants should apply by January 17, 2005 to:

Joan White, Executive Director, MBA Programs
University of Alberta
2-30 B, School of Business
Edmonton, AB T6G 2R6
Email: jwhite@ualberta.ca

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

The Department of Human Ecology invites applications for a tenure track assistant professor in the area of material culture. The start date for this position is July 1, 2005.

The department offers a four-year BSc in Human Ecology with majors in family ecology or textiles and clothing, a five-year combined BSc/BE degree; masters degrees in Textiles and Clothing, and family ecology and practice (both thesis and course-based options) and a PhD degree in human ecology. A recent \$4.1 million renovation to the human ecology building has provided the department with excellent facilities for housing its 18,000 artifact clothing and textiles collection, textile science labs and social science research facilities. The department is part of the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics, an interdisciplinary faculty that values excellence in teaching and research. For further information see www.hecol.ualberta.ca and www.afhe.ualberta.ca.

Responsibilities: Teach undergraduate and graduate level courses, establish an independent research program and supervise graduate students in material culture. Ability to address additional topics such as dress and culture, cross

cultural textiles, sustainable design and/or textile policies in a global economy.

Requirements: PhD in Textiles and Clothing, Human Ecology or related field. University teaching experience preferred, especially in a human ecology context. Evidence of a successful record of scholarship is important. The successful candidate will have a background that is a good fit with the Department of Human Ecology and that enhances our ability to provide relevant, high quality education and research programs. Demonstrated leadership ability and potential to develop a strong research program consistent with the Faculty's commitment to collaborative research is expected. Demonstrated potential to contribute to an interdisciplinary research program in material culture with a textiles and clothing focus is desirable.

The salary range for the position is commensurate with experience at the level of Assistant Professor; the 2004/05 range is \$51,768 - \$73,320. Closing date for applications is March 31, 2005, or

until a suitable candidate is found. Please submit applications to:

Linda Capjack, Chair
Department of Human Ecology
302 Human Ecology Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, AB T6G 2N1 Canada
Phone: (780) 492-5997
Fax: (780) 492-4821
Email: linda.capjack@ualberta.ca.

Include in the application package: letter of application addressing qualifications, a statement of teaching philosophy and interests, and a description of research program; curriculum vitae including a list of publications; graduate transcript(s); the names and contact information of three referees; and up to three sample refereed journal articles.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. If suitable Canadian citizens or permanent residents cannot be found, other individuals will be considered.

notices

Please send notices attention Folio, 6th floor General Services Building, University of Alberta, T6G 2H1 or e-mail public.affairs@ualberta.ca. Notices should be received by 3 p.m. Thursday one week prior to publication.

3M TEACHING FELLOWSHIP AND ALAN BLIZZARD AWARDS - 2005

The 3M Teaching Fellowships Award, which has a deadline of March 4, 2005, is a joint project of 3M Canada Inc. and the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE), initiated in 1986 by STLHE. Up to 10 awards are given annually. The University of Alberta has 24 3M Teaching Fellows, followed by the University of Western Ontario with 18 and the University of Guelph with 12. The 3M Teaching Fellowships represent Canada's only national award for university educators. Any individual teaching at a Canadian university (regardless of discipline or level of appointment) is eligible. An all expense paid three-day (November 5-7, 2005), retreat at the Fairmont Le Chateau Montebello is a main component of the award.

Nomination information is available at the following websites: www.stlhe.ca or www.mcmaster.ca/3Mteachingfellowships. Email enquiries should be directed to Arshad Ahmad <arshad@jmsb.concordia.ca> or by phone to (514) 848-2424 extension 2928 or 2793.

The Alan Blizzard Award, which has a deadline of January 28, 2005, was developed by the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) to stimulate and reward collaboration in teaching, and to encourage and disseminate the scholarship of teaching. The award is given to collaborative projects that increase the effectiveness of student learning. Created on his retirement, the award honours Alan Blizzard for his significant contributions to university teaching and learning as president of STLHE from 1987 - 1995. The first award was given in 2000; teams from the University of Alberta received the award in 2000 and 2003.

The application form is available at www.mcmaster.ca/stlhe/awards/alan.blizzard.award.htm. Email enquiries should be directed to Aline Germain-Rutherford, <agermain@uottawa.ca> or by phone to (613) 564-2350.

You can also contact Bente Roed, University Teaching Services, 215 Central Academic Building, 492-2826 for information on both these awards.

THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Announces a
Call for Research Proposals
The Department of Sociology invites research proposals to carry out studies on impaired driving or other related social policy problems such as chronic alcoholism, traffic safety, etc.

Interest from an endowment made by REID (Research and Education on Impaired Driving) will be used to fund the successful research proposal(s). The maximum amount available this round is \$12,000, which may be used to fund one research project or divided between two (or more) smaller projects.

The competition is open to any university member conducting research relating to impaired

driving or other related social policy problems such as chronic alcoholism, traffic safety, etc. It will be adjudicated by a panel of five members (three from the university and two from the contributing organization).

Proposals should be submitted to:
Dr R. Sydie, Chair
Department of Sociology
University of Alberta
5-21 HM Tory Building
Edmonton AB T6G 2H4

The competition will close on January 14, 2005. If you have any questions, please contact Fay Sylvester by e-mail: fay.sylvester@ualberta.ca

CALL FOR HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS

The Office of the Senate is accepting nominations of worthy individuals for honorary degrees. Any member of the public or the University community may submit a nomination.

Honorary degrees are intended to honour individuals whose extraordinary intellectual or artistic achievements or significant service to society are worthy of the University's highest honour. By its choice, the University proclaims the recipient worthy to be admitted to the University on the basis of achievement for the common good. An honorary degree should encourage a standard of excellence which is exemplary to students and to society.

Successful nominees will receive honorary degrees at either the June 2005 or November 2005 convocations.

To make a nomination, visit www.ualberta.ca/senate/honorarydegrees.cfm and download a nomination form. For more information or to request that a nomination package be sent to you, please contact the Office of the Senate at 780.492.2448 or senate.office@ualberta.ca.

The deadline to submit nominations is January 31, 2005.

EFF - FSIDA (FUND FOR SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES)

Application Deadline
The deadline for receipt of applications to the EFF - FSIDA is 4:30 PM, January 17, 2005. The next competition deadline dates are April 15, 2005 and October 15, 2005.

This Fund exists to enable staff and graduate students (normally PhD candidates) of the University of Alberta to participate in research and in the international transfer of knowledge and expertise through partnerships in developing countries.

Applications and guidelines are available on the University of Alberta International website <www.international.ualberta.ca> under "International Cooperation" and "Funding Opportunities" or from the FSIDA Secretary at University of Alberta International, 1204 College Plaza, 8215-112 Street,

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EVERYBODY WAS KUNG-FU FIGHTING



Photos: Shawn Benbow

Campus club keeps participants fit and happy

By Shawn Benbow

Tom Nowacki didn't join the Wing Chun Kung Fu club to learn fancy drop-kicks. "It's not very ornate – it's a pretty straight-forward style," the fourth-year Honours Pharmacology student from the University of Alberta said after participating in his first staff class. The group meets three times a week to learn Wing Chun, a martial art made popular by Bruce Lee.

Previously, Nowacki participated in taekwondo, but he hit a plateau and didn't see any improvement in his skills. The taekwondo style didn't feel like a very effective fit for Nowacki, "it was very fancy and fun, but it didn't seem a very useful thing to do." He knew that Bruce Lee practiced Jeet Kune Do, which is based on Wing Chun, and he later found the club at the U of A. "To me it seemed like a more original, traditional form," he said.

Nowacki joined the club just over three years ago with his brother Maciek, a Computer Systems Technology student from NAIT. Other than a year of karate when he was young, Maciek didn't have any martial arts background. "Wing Chun has made me more confident in myself. I feel that I'm more agile and in better shape," he said. "Basically, it makes you more physically confident in yourself. You move better, feel better. I keep coming back because it's just as interesting now as it was when I started three years ago."

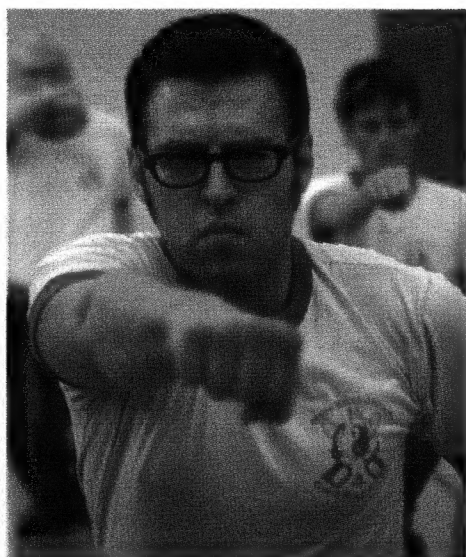
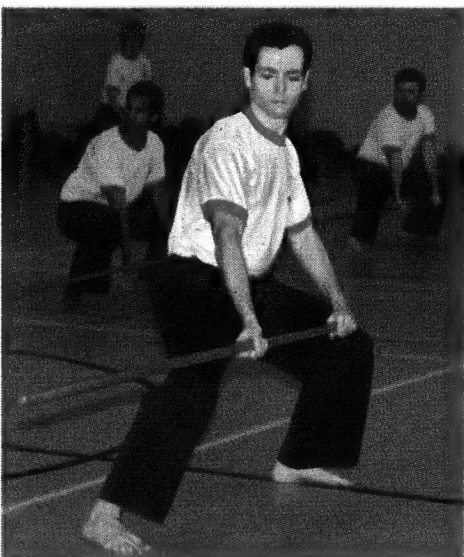
One of the instructors, Shaun Joyce, has been with the club for 11 years. "I'd had some experience with martial arts and I knew that Wing Chun is what I wanted to learn because it was most applicable to self defense," Joyce said. He says he keeps coming back because he still has fun, "after 11 years there's always something new to learn." Joyce likes the idea of perfecting what you already know. "It's a lifetime of continually trying to be better, quicker, smoother; that's what keeps me motivated."

For Tom Nowacki, the benefits are mostly health related. "It's interesting because all the martial arts teach you to use your body more efficiently and in a more co-ordinated manner," he said. "I enjoy that aspect because you get better at your stance, your balance, your co-ordination. You discover another way to use your body." Although the classes are held in groups, Nowacki stressed that it's a personal activity. "Everything that you do is done for yourself, and can be done by yourself," he said, "you don't need anyone to help you."

The club's website is www.abkungfu.ca . ■



Members of the University of Alberta's Wing Chun kung-fu club, under the direction of head instructor Edward Ng (seen above with Sue Ng), stay in shape mentally and physically during regular practice.



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